GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4052
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2006
CLOSING DOWN OF CIRUS REACTOR
Singh Kunwar Rewati Raman

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has agreed to close down Cirus reactor of Canadian design following an agreement with USA; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER`S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a) Separation plan that has been prepared as a part of discussions on Indo-US civil nuclear cooperation envisages that CIRUS reactor will be shutdown in the year 2010.

(b) CIRUS has all along been a facility to support research for peaceful application of atomic energy. Since, the CIRUS reactor is located at Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), a strategic facility, external safeguards inspection cannot be allowed.